

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

OMB-01 SAM-01 NIC-01 /061 W
----- 022572

R 241445Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANAA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5065

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BAGDHAD

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANAA 0474

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: YEMEN MISSION TO IRAN AND BAHRAIN

1. DURING FEB 23 CONVERSATION FONMIN ABDULLAH ASNAG INFORMED ME THAT AHMED ABDO SAID, MINISTER OF STATE FOR SERVICES AND PERSONAL CONFIDANT OF ASNAG, HAS BEEN SENT ON SPECIAL MISSION TO IRAN AND BAHRAIN. PURPOSE OF VISIT TO IRAN IS TO MEND FENCES AFTER WHAT ASNAG DESCRIBED AS "PERIOD OF INDIFFERENCE TOWARDS IRAN AND FORMER PRIME MINISTER MUSHIN AL-AYNI." ASNAG SAID SAID WILL BE CARRYING PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM HIM TO IRANIAN FONMIN WHICH CALLS FOR GOOD AND CLOSE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO STATES.

2. ASNAG CONTINUED THAT PURPOSE OF VISIT TO BAHRAIN IS TO ENABLE SAID TO LEARN WHAT RESULTS, IF ANY, CAME OUT OF RECENT VISIT TO BAHRAIN BY SOUTH YEMENI FONMIN. ASNAG EXPLAINED THAT NORTH YEMEN IS CONCERNED ABOUT CURRENT SOUTH YEMENI EFFORTS TO OPEN
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DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH GULF STATES. HE COMMENTED

THAT NORTH YEMEN IS NOT ENTIRELY CONVINCED THAT THERE
HAS BEEN A CHANGE IN POLICY IN SOUTH YEMEN AWAY FROM LEFTIST
EXTREMISM AND HE FEARS SOUTH YEMEN IS PLANNING TO OPEN
EMBASSIES IN GULF STATES FOR EXPIONAGE AND SUBVERSION.

3. COMMENT: ASNAG HAS EXPRESSED THESE VIEWS ON SOUTH
YEMEMBZO ME SEVERAL TIMES SINCE I HAVE MET HIM. AS A FORMER
ADENI HE CAN OF COURSE CLAIM TO HAVE BETTER FEEL FOR DEVELOPMENTS
IN SOUTH YEMEN THAN OTHERS IN NORTH YEMEN GOVERNMENT.
IT IS ALSO OBVIOUS TO ME THAT HE DESIRES CLOSER RELATIONS
WITH IRAN, NO DOUBT AS A BALANCE TO YEMEN'S CLOSE RELATIONSHIP
WITH SAUDI ARABIA.
SCOTES

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